1	2
Maharashtra	91.5
Dadra&Nagar Haveli	17.7
Daman & Diu	12.5
6. SOUTHERN REGION	**86.7**
Andhra Pradesh	89.1
Karnataka	76.1
Kerala	63.7
Tamil Nadu	109.8
Lakshadweep	9.2
Pondicherry	46.8
ALL-INDIA:	71.5

Notes: Date relate to last Friday of September 2007
SOURCE: BSR (Basic Statistical Return)-7

Prosecution under the prevention of Money Laundering Act

521. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many prosecutions have been launched under the prevention of Money Laundering Act in the current year;

(b) what is the total amount for which action have been taken towards attachment proceedings; and

(c) what are the offences for which the proceedings have been initiated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Nil.

(b) During the period 2007-08, action has been taken for attachment of properties worth approximately Rs. 33.33 crores.

(c) The offences for which the proceedings have been initiated under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, are as follows:

(i) Sections 121A, 302, 307, 384, 385, 386, 387, 467 of Indian Penal Code.

(ii) Sections 22 & 29 of the Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, and

(iii) Section 25 of the Arms Act, 1959.

Subsidy in interest components on educational loans

522. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering the proposal to subsidize the interest component on loans given to students for higher professional courses during the moratorium period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is preparing a Rs.4,000 crores plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government is also planning to extend some concessions to families whose annual income is Rs. 2.5 lakhs and whose wards are pursuing professional education; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (f) A proposal to provide interest subsidy on loans taken under the existing Model Education Loan Scheme circulated by Indian Banks' Association (IBA) is under consideration of the Government of India. The details of the scheme are yet to be finalised.

Mode of payment of Bills

523. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal wherein an individual may pay all his bills *e.g.* mobile, electricity, credit card etc. on a particular day of the month because as of now an individual pays bills of some kind or the other all through the month and thus there is no saving at all; and

(b) if so, whether it would be made mandatory for all service providers to get all bills on a particular date in a month?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Pending cases for Income Tax 35AC exemptions

524. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many cases of Income Tax 35AC exemptions are pending in the Department of Revenue for more than six months;

(b) if so, how many such cases are pending in the department as on December, 2007;

(c) the reasons for the delay in clearance of the cases;

(d) the steps being taken to clear the backlog in the department;

(e) whether it is also a fact that it takes more than six to ten months before the approval is accorded for the Income Tax 35AC exemptions in the department; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Applications for purposes of section 35AC of the Income Tax Act, 1961, pending for more than six months as on 31.12.2007, number 538 regarding new cases and 76 regarding extension cases.

(c) to (f) Deficiency letters are issued in cases where the required particulars and relevant documents are not furnished. Response to deficiency letters was awaited in 395 new cases and 26 extension cases out of the pending cases as on 31.12.2007 mentioned above. Delay in